

Dear Jeff,

12/9/78

Before returning to one of the many affidavits after taking Lil grocery shopping I want to thank you for the Blakey narrations that came today and offer you wrapping paper, which I have in quantity. You used newspaper, which takes more time and today absorbed some of the rain. I do have an abundance of 50" best-quality 60lb brown wrapping paper. You are welcome to a roll and to a device for holding tape. Only I can't carry it on the bus. Someone will have to get it.

After you told me that the paper had taken the wraps off Earl I phoned him. We talked for a long time, more than an hour. I offered him other stories (may I say those your squad missed?) and it happens something his editor can use in response to an unprincipled attack by Aynesworth.

If your release on the Bronson film had been wild, I'd be angry and you'd hear from me in strong language. I am not angry and I'm taking more time to try to get you people to address, to face what inhibits what can be accomplished, an inappropriate machismo. To a minute degree this is what everyone objects to in Lane, who believes that he owns everything, invented the wheel and discovered sex.

You told me that you were aware from the first that the records from which you obtained the Bronson FD302s were those I forced out. (C.A. 78-0322, with Jim as counsel and still very much in court.) So why did you fail to say this and imply otherwise?

As you now know I sent copies to one of your group as soon as I spotted them. He did not recognize what it meant. (Another actually went over some of the separate files I made of selections. Bronson is in that file, too.)

Long ago I ceased having strong feeling about such matters except that I have also learned the inevitable results include diminishing what might have been accomplished.

For one thing Earl and I would have been in touch and he'd have had a ready-made follow-up, which his paper also would have liked and one that would have exposed the committee in another area. Until this story I was not aware that the restraints had been removed from him.

I've told Earl he is welcome to go over this separate files of Dallas records and he is if he can get here. I can't take time from the work that makes these things possible to subsidize a wealthy publication which will not help the work I do in any way. (I have eight cartons I've not opened and one I've opened to ascertain contents but not been able to examine.)

When it is clear that the practices of others are not going to change mine will change. All those who want to go over these records will do something about the records in return. If I have to take time to identify them on file folders I do not believe than anyone else is too important for that kind of work.

Meanwhile, I find myself wondering with all the subject experts involved and all their representations of real understanding and knowhow not one thought to help Earl and the paper defend themselves against the televised charges Aynesworth made such as "checkbook journalism." I read relevant record to Earl and he loved them and thinks his editor also will. Until Earl told me day before yesterday I was not aware of it. My, my, if only they had been prepared immediately with what they have now of Aynesworth's own checkbook journalism in which he screwed his own paper and engaged in disinformation at the same time!

Sincerely,

Sylvia, for your information only. The young ones are not in control of their egos and personal longings, are not as yep on the subject as they think but are not all bad people. Jeff is a good person. I can't always help but often I can and sometimes I see that others do not, drawing on other and more experiences. In addition, it simply was not honest not to give an accurate account of how the records were forced out of suppression. Actually, I'd also offered them access to my selections.